

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant has reviewed the Office Action of March 8, 2006 as well as the prior art cited therein.

It is interesting to note that the prior art cited by the Examiner is directed to methods and apparatus for vulcanizing hose and where the vulcanizing step uses microwave energy.

In contradistinction, as clearly stated on page 4 of the present application, the frequencies used for the curing of the hose according to the invention are between 1 and 14 MHz, which is in the RF frequency range.

The purpose here is not to vulcanise, but rather to bond the liner to the jacket of the hose.

It is respectfully submitted that a person skilled in the art would not look to BABBIN et al. ('942) or BABBIN ('095) singly or taken in combination in order to arrive at the invention as positively claimed in claim 1 where the oven includes means for applying RF radiation to the hose.

Page 4 of the specification has been amended to introduce the limitation "RF" in the description.

No new matter has been added by this amendment.

It is respectfully submitted that this amendment places the application in immediate condition for allowance and an early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Docket No. 87367.1100
Serial No. 10/670,266
Customer No. 30734

Patent

In the event this paper is not time filed, Applicants petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fee deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-2036 with reference to Attorney Docket No. 87202.1840.

Respectfully submitted,

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